

33. The recombinant baculovirus of Claim 32, wherein said therapeutic product comprises β -glucuronidase, NGH, BDNF, NT3, NT4/5, NT6, CNFT, axokine, LIF, IL6, cardiotrophin, GDNF, IGF-1, IFGF-2, FGF1, FGF2, FGF3, FGF4, FGF5, FGF6, FGF7, FGF8, FGF9, or TGF- β --

REMARKS

Applicants submit the instant preliminary amendment in lieu of a preliminary amendment filed in this matter with the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) on September 27, 2001. In particular, on October 11, 2001, the USPTO informed Applicants' representative that the previously filed preliminary amendment was based Claims not presently pending in this matter. Thus, Applicants submit the instant preliminary amendment that is based upon Claims presently pending, in lieu of the September 27th preliminary amendment. Applicants are grateful the USPTO's diligence in this matter, and their notification to Applicants' representative.

In the instant preliminary amendment, Applicants have made merely formal amendments to the pending Claims so that their format complies with the standards of United States patent practice. In addition, Applicants have added new Claims 23-33. Support for amended Claims 8 and 11-15 and 19-22, as well as new Claims 23-33 can be found generally throughout the instant Specification, and particularly on pages 13-23, and Claims 1-19 as filed. Thus, the instant preliminary amendment introduced no new matter into the instant Application.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the Claims by the instant Amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version With Markings To Show Changes Made."

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully request entry of the foregoing amendments and remarks in the file history of the instant Application. The Claims as amended are believed to be in condition for allowance, and early and favorable action on the claims is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'W. C. Coppola', written over the printed name.

William C. Coppola
Attorney for Applicant(s)
Registration No. 41,686

AVENTIS PHRAMACEUTICALS PRODUCTS INC.
Route 202-206; Mail Stop: EMC-G1
P.O. Box 6800
Bridgewater, NJ 08807

Version With Markings To Show Changes Made

1. (Amended) Recombinant baculovirus having a baculovirus envelope protein, comprising a heterologous nucleic acid sequence operatively associated with a promoter sequence, wherein the heterologous nucleic acid sequence encodes [encoding] a product of therapeutic interest for the treatment of diseases of the nervous system.

2. (Amended) Baculovirus according to claim 1 [characterized in that] wherein the heterologous nucleic acid sequence comprises [is] an antisense sequence or a gene.

3. (Amended) Baculovirus according to claim 2, wherein [characterized in that] the heterologous nucleic acid sequence is a gene that encodes a compound selected from the group consisting of a hormone, a lymphokine, a growth factor, an enzyme for synthesizing a neurotransmitter, a trophic factor, a protein involved in the metabolism of an amino acid, a protein involved in the metabolism of a lipid, and a protein involved in the metabolism of a carbohydrate [encoding product of therapeutic interest chosen from hormones, lymphokines, growth factors, enzymes for synthesizing neurotransmitters, trophic factors, proteins involved in the metabolism of amino acids, lipids or carbohydrates].

4. (Amended) Baculovirus according to claim 3, wherein trophic factor is selected from the group consisting of a neutrophin, a member of the CNTF family, a member of the IGF family, and a member of the FGF family [characterized in that the trophic factors are chosen from members of the neutrophin family such as NGF, BDNF, NT3,

NT4/5, NT6, members of the CNTF family such as CNFT, axokine, LIF, IL6, cardiotrophin, GDNF, members of the IGF family such as IGF-1 and IGF-2, members of the FGF family such as FGF 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, and TGF- β].

6. (Amended) Recombinant baculovirus according to claim 5, [characterized in that it is a] wherein said recombinant baculovirus expresses [expressing] an envelope protein that is foreign to a baculovirus [other than that of baculoviruses].

7. (Amended) Recombinant baculovirus according to Claim 6, [characterized in that] wherein the envelope protein comprises [is] the glycoprotein of the rabies virus or the glycoprotein of VSV (Vesicular Stomatitis Virus).

9. (Amended) Baculovirus according to claim 1, wherein [8, characterized in that] the promoter sequence is selected from the group consisting of the Neuron Specific Enolase (NSE) promoter sequence, the Neurofilament (NF) promoter sequence, the Tyrosine Hydroxylase (TH) promoter sequence, the Dopamine Transporter (DAT) promoter sequence, the Choline Acetyl Transferase (ChA) promoter sequence, the Dopamine β -Hydroxylase (DBH) promoter sequence, the Tryptophan Hydroxylase (TPH) promoter sequence, the Glutamic Acid Dehydrogenase (GAD) promoter sequence, and the Glial Fibrillary Acidic Protein (GFAP) promoter sequence [chosen from the promoters of the NSE (Neuron Specific Enolase), NF (Neurofilament), TH (Tyrosine Hydroxylase), DAT (Dopamine Transporter), ChAT (Choline Acetyl Transferase), DBH

(Dopamine β -Hydroxylase), TPH (Tryptophan Hydroxylase), GAD (Glutamic Acid Dehydrogenase) and GFAP (Glial Fibrillary Acidic Protein) genes].

10. (Amended) Recombinant baculovirus according to claim 1, further comprising a signal sequence [one of claims 1 to 9, characterized in that it also comprises signal sequences which make it possible] to induce secretion of specific compartmentalization of the therapeutic product.

16. (Amended) A population [Population] of cells of the nervous system [(e.g., brain, spinal cord, neural, glial or ependymal cells], which is infected with the recombinant baculovirus of claim 1 [one of more recombinant baculoviruses according to one of claims 1 to 10].

17. (Amended) An implant [Implant] comprising human cells infected with a recombinant baculovirus of claim 1 [with one or more recombinant baculoviruses according to one of claims 1 to 10].

18. (Amended) A pharmaceutical [Pharmaceutical] composition comprising a recombinant baculovirus of claim 1 [one or more recombinant baculoviruses according to one of claims 1 to 10], in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable vehicle.